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[In the December *Monthly Notices* R. A. S., just received, ESPIN states that he re-examined this star in August, 1893, and it was "found not to be Type IV, but Type III ! !" His observations suggest variability in its light.]

JUPITER'S FIFTH SATELLITE.

By comparing his observations of *Jupiter's* fifth satellite, made 1893, September 15th, with those made 1892, September 10th, Dr. BARNARD has found (*Astronomical Journal*, No. 304,) that the period of revolution of the satellite is

$$11^h\ 57^m\ 22^s.56.$$

This value will probably not be changed, after several years' observations, by more than one or two-tenths of a second. The other elements of the orbit are not yet known. M. TISSERAND has pointed out (*Comptes Rendus*, Vol. CXVII, page 1024) that if the orbit is not a circle some of the elliptic elements will vary rapidly, for the reason that *Jupiter* differs greatly from a spherical form. The excess of matter in *Jupiter's* equatorial regions will powerfully perturb the motion of the small and near satellite. Thus the *peri-jove* will move from west to east no less than 882° in one year—that is, the point of the orbit nearest to the planet will make a complete revolution in about five months. The eccentricity of the orbit is quite small, however, and TISSERAND'S predicted motion of the *peri-jove* cannot be verified until a long series of observations has been made. E. S. H.

DEATH OF PROFESSOR RUDOLF WOLF.

RUDOLF WOLF, the eminent Swiss astronomer, died December 6th at the Zurich Observatory, of which he had been director since 1855.

Professor WOLF'S scientific interests embraced the very wide fields of mathematics, physics, geodesy and astronomy. His original researches along these lines were very fruitful, and his several volumes on the history of these subjects are mines of concise and accurate information, to which working astronomers have constant recourse.

It was Dr. WOLF who developed and established the periodic law of the Sun spots and placed solar observations upon a scientific basis.

The friends of this modest and conscientious investigator have